

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 20086 091040Z  
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 IGA-02 MCE-00 EB-08  
ERDA-05 /085 W

-----027466 091105Z /14

P R 091007Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6016  
INFO CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 20086

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, TH  
SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF ARMS TRANSFER POLICY GUIDELINES

REF: STATE 207984

1. ALL MISSION ELEMENTS ARE FULLY COGNIZANT OF GUIDANCE PROVIDED REFTEL.
2. NEW CHANNEL FOR REPORTING PRESENTS NO RPT NO MAJOR PROBLEM TO MISSION. PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REFTEL ALL JUSMAG REQUESTS THROUGH DEFENSE CHANNELS FOR INFORMATION ON MAJOR EQUIPMENT ITEMS WERE ROUTINELY CLEARED WITH EMBASSY. EMBASSY/STATE CHANNELS WILL NOW BE USED.
3. IN REFERENCE TO PARA 5D REFTEL, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE INADVISABLE TO ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH HERE A STRICTLY DIPLOMATIC CHANNEL FOR COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO ARMS TRANSFERS. THE THAI MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS NO PRT NO POLITICO-MILITARY OFFICE AND HAS THUS FAR ESCHEWED ALMOST ENTIRELY CONSIDERATION OF OR INVOLVEMENT IN DEFENSE RELATED MATTERS. IT HAS DISPLAYED LITTLE INTEREST IN BECOMING INVOLVED IN SUCH QUESTIONS. WERE WE  
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TO PUSH FOR MFA PARTICIPATION IN THE ARMS TRANSFER PROCESS, WE PROBABLY WOULD SUCCEED ONLY IN ANTAGONIZING THE RTG AND IN ADDING ANOTHER LAYER TO THE PROCESS WHICH WOULD NOT RPT NOT CONTRIBUTE TO OUR OBJECTIVE OF ASSURING MORE THOROUGH POLICY CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED ARMS PURCHASE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE STAGE. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, MFA WOULD SIMPLY FOLLOW MOD INSTRUCTIONS ON DEFENSE

RELATED MATTERS.

4. WE BELIEVE AN APPROPRIATE AND EFFECTIVE CHANNEL, WHICH SHOULD FALL WITHIN DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES, WOULD BE WRITTEN COMMUNICATION FROM SENIOR MOD LEVEL DIRECT TO MISSION. SO LONG AS THERE IS A JUSMAG ORGANIZATION HERE, THE CHIEF OF JUSMAGTHAI WOULD CONTINUE TO ACT AS THE AMBASSADOR'S PRIMARY ADVISOR AND THE MAIN POINT OF CONTACT BETWEEN THE RTG AND THE US MISSION ON SECURITY ASSISTANCE MATTERS. WE ENVISAGE, FOR EXAMPLE, A LETTER FROM APPROPRIATE LEVEL AT MOD TO AMBASSADOR FORWARDED THROUGH JUSMAGTHAI FOR REQUESTS REQUIRING REFERENCE TO WASHINGTON.

5. WE WOULD ALSO SEEK AS APPROPRIATE, TO FIT RTG REQUESTS FOR COMMERCIAL PURCHASES OF ARMS INTO THIS CHANNEL. FYI: WE ALREADY HAVE HAD AN INDICATION THAT THE RTG MAY COME TO US SOON WITH REGARD TO A MAJOR COMMERCIAL ARMS PURCHASE REQUEST.

6 IF DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN APPROPRIATENESS OF PROPOSED CHANNEL, WE INTEND TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS IMMEDIATELY WITH THE THAI COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC) OF THE SUPREME COMMAND TO SEEK THEIR VIEWS ON HOW BEST TO MEET THE NEW REQUIREMENTS. WE EXPECT THE THAI WILL AGREE TO SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES DESCRIBED ABOVE. FOLLOWING INFORMAL AGREEMENT ON THE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT PROCEDURES TO CONFIDENTIAL

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BE INSTITUTED, WE PROPOSE FORMALIZING THE ARRANGEMENT THROUGH EITHER A DIPLOMATIC NOTE OR A LETTER FROM THE AMBASSADOR TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, WITH A COPY TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WE WOULD PLAN TO KEEP MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS INFORMED OF MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT ULTIMATELY PURCHASED.

7. WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN EARLY RESPONSE TO ACTION PROPOSED IN PARA 6 SO THAT WE MAY PROCEED.  
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, SALES, POLICIES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977BANGKO20086  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** IMPLEMENTATION OF ARMS TRANSFER POLICY GUIDELINES  
**TAGS:** MASS, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009